

THE CHARITON COURIER.

C. P. VANDIVER, Ed. and Prop.

KEYTESVILLE, - MISSOURI.

DISPATCHES FROM TEXAS show a bad outlook for crops in that state owing to the prevalence of an extensive and long continued drouth.

TOM CALLIS of Monroe county shipped 108 hogs last week whose average weight was 450 pounds. A number of them tipped the beam at 700 pounds.

THE seven men from different parts of this state, condemned to be hung last Saturday, were all respited by Governor Stone until May.

WHILE we are threatened with another drouthy year in Missouri New England has rain to spare. The watercourses there are higher than they have been for many years.

PROF. KIM, state superintendent of public schools, met the county school commissioners of some eight or ten counties contiguous to Chillicothe in that city last Monday on business connected with institute work.

HON. S. L. KASEY, Democratic representative from Macon county, is laid up at his home in Kaseyville with inflammatory rheumatism. In consequence, he will not be able to attend the extra session of the legislature.

THE Stillwell murder case is about to be revived again. A colored man that was in Hannibal at the time of the murder has written a letter to an official of Marion county throwing some light on the subject. He says a certain colored man, now in jail at Palmyra, was seen at the Stillwell residence a short time before the murder occurred. He thinks by putting this fellow in the sweat-box a satisfactory clue to the whole affair would be revealed. There was always a belief in the minds of some persons that Stillwell was killed by a negro.

It is not strange that the Democrats were defeated in the late municipal election in St. Louis, if what a "Democrat," speaking in the *West-Dispatch*, says in reference to Democratic managers in that city is true. He says: "With the exception of two or three of the Democratic committee they are all office-holding, office-seeking barnacles or saloon-keepers with a 'pull,' whose political influence to swell the receipts of their bars. The stream cannot rise higher than its source, and when you examine its personnel you will perceive why Democrats will not trust this galaxy of stars."

THERE is a good prospect for a dead-lock when the extra session of the legislature which met Tuesday gets to work on a new election law. The safety committee of St. Louis and Kansas City, composed without reference to politics, has proposed a bill that would be satisfactory to those cities if it were enacted into law. The Republican house, it is said, is bent on its own way, and will pass what is known as the Filley bill or nothing. Major Griffin, the chief clerk of the house, was up at Kansas City last week consulting the Republican members from Jackson county, for the purpose of securing their support of a new election law framed under the guiding hand of Chancey I. Filley.

Nor satisfied with having the president and a goodly number of congressmen and politicians on their side, it seems that gold-bugs want to extend their influence, and in order to do so, it is said they are buying out or subsidizing all the leading Democratic newspapers in the West. The *Times-Herald* and *Evening Post* at Chicago have succumbed and will hereafter be red-hot gold-bug papers. The Democrats of Chicago are now without an organ, but are taking steps to establish one. Were the silver interests in Missouri left to the tender mercies of some of our Democratic metropolitan dailies, we would soon be in the same boat as our Chicago neighbors. The *St. Louis Republic*, *Kansas City Star*, and *Kansas City Times* are dead set against the free coinage question, unless we get all the world and the balance of mankind, metaphorically speaking, to agree to it. The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and *Chronicle* are on the other side and want silver remonetized, whether our European masters agree to it or not.

CAN'T AGREE.

Senator Harris of Tennessee says:

"People should recognize the undeniable fact that money is purely the creature of law; it is now, always was and always must be just what the law of its country makes it, and when it passes beyond the limits of its own country it is not money, but immediately becomes a commodity, which goes into the markets just as a bale of cotton or a bushel of wheat does."

Whereupon the K. C. *Star* takes issue and says: "The truth is money is not the creature of law; never was, and never will be until a new system of trade and industry shall have become general in the world."

Is it not a little strange that there should be such difference of opinion among men supposed to know whereof they affirm on questions of such vital import as the money question? So far as we "lesser lights" are concerned we must reach conclusions for ourselves, when doctors disagree, based upon facts that it is our privilege to know. We used to know a preacher, who, when wishing to prove a theological proposition, would say "to the law and the testimony."

When we refer to our organic law as laid down in the constitution of the United States, article 1, section 8, we find this language in reference to the powers of congress:

"To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures." With this clause in our constitution we can scarcely credit those who make the assertion that "money is not a creature of the law" with either honesty or sincerity. There is a screw loose somewhere in their make-up, that, perhaps, we ought to attribute to ignorance.

The section named confers the power and imposes the duty upon congress of coining money, of regulating the value thereof and of foreign coin.

In 1792 congress exercised the power conferred and discharged the duty imposed upon it, and declared that a gold dollar should contain 25.8 grains of gold, and that a silver dollar should contain 412.5 grains of silver.

This act established the parity between the two metals for 81 years or until 1873. Through all these years silver coin had the same purchasing value as gold, simply because it had the sanction of law, but when the law discriminated against silver it depreciated, while gold advanced. Its purchasing power as money becoming double that of silver which had been reduced, by law, to a mere commodity.

With this state of facts who can say that "money, whether made of gold, silver or paper is not a mere creature of the law?" Why do we not, to-day, have coins made of metals other than gold, silver, nickel or copper? Is it not simply because the law does not authorize it?

Again, if money is not a creature of the law, why is it that a pound of silver is not worth as much to-day as a pound of gold? Historians tell us that in some ancient countries the value of silver was superior to that of gold. This was true Tacitus says, of ancient Germany.

The relative value of the two metals has fluctuated for thousands of years, but the changes of values were always brought about by or through legal enactment.

Relative values of the two metals were established by the

edict of kings, and continued or changed to suit the wishes of the government or individuals that speculated in one or both of the metals. When gold became scarce the legal price of silver was raised, and vice versa. So far as we have been able to determine the relative value of gold and silver coins was never the same in any two nations till in 1688 when Portugal raised the value of gold to 16 times that of silver. "Except during a brief period of forty years this ratio has ever since been maintained in Spanish and British America and the United States." In 1775 Spain changed the ratio from one-sixteenth to one-fifteenth. In 1726 France adopted a ratio of 14 1-2 and maintained it till 1785 when she changed to 15 1-2 which she has maintained ever since.

Viewed in the light of history and common sense, who will say money and its values are not creatures of the law? Under the constitution it will be observed that congress not only has the power to coin and regulate the value of money, but also to regulate the value of foreign coin. Then why should not foreign governments regulate the value of our coins when circulating in their countries?

If nations come together in counsel and fix the relative value of coins it will be something different from any feat ever accomplished in the history of the world. We do not believe it will ever be done, because of conflicting interests. Values that answer well between circulating mediums at home may not suit the combine, hence it will be thought best for each nation to engineer its own money craft.

All politicians and economists admit that our present financial system is faulty. Mr. Cleveland, himself, became alarmed and urged congress to make a change, but no change has been made. All the financial evils that beset the country when Mr. Cleveland took his seat are menacing us to-day, with no prospect for a change till the old regime is restored.

The remedy for these evils, in our judgment, is a speedy return to our ancient moorings. Reinstating silver to the position which it held in this country for nearly a century as a money metal, and "in connection with gold make it the regulator of volume, or amount of that thing called money," and all will soon be well again. Peace, plenty and prosperity will reign from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the lakes to the gulf.

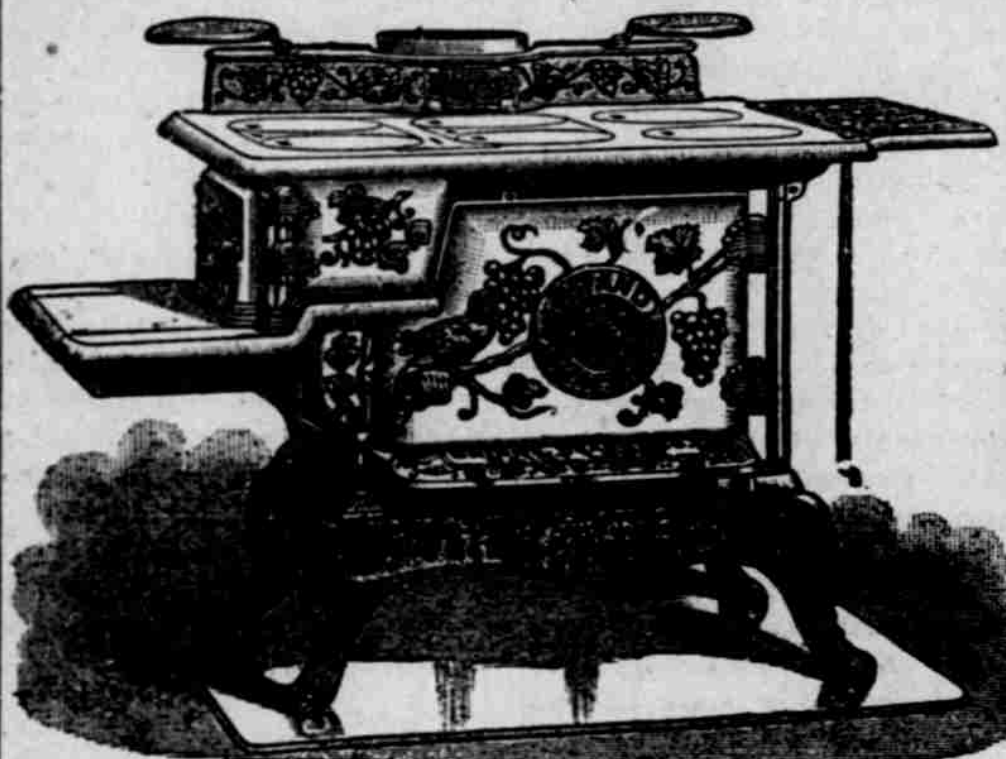
Among the arrivals at Jefferson City to attend the extra session of the legislature are the irrepressible lobbyists, Phelps and Flannigan. They are on hand early and will doubtless aim to get in their work the same as though the governor had never said a word about lobby rule at the state capital. The people, however, will keep an eye on their legislative servants and will be heard from in due time in case their solons lend a listening ear to the siren song of Messrs. Phelps, Flannigan and others of their kind.

THREE boys under 16 years of age of Hutchinson, Kansas, confessed in court last Tuesday to no less than 60 highway robberies and were sent to the reform school until they become 21 years old.

It is said the 17-year locusts and also the 13-year variety are to visit Missouri this year. We had a variety last year that were numerous in many portions of the country.

HARDWARE

Is a necessity. When you need anything in that line see W. D. Vaughan before buying. He sells the "Nancy Hanks" Force Pumps for shallow or deep wells; two brass cylinders throw a continual stream. Easiest working pump on the market; satisfaction guaranteed. Superior cook stoves, fire backs warranted 15 yrs; all other castings warranted 12 months; satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.



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Respectfully,
W. D. VAUGHAN, Keytesville, Mo.

THE EXTRA SESSION.

The extra session of the Missouri legislature convened in Jefferson City last Tuesday as per call of the governor.

His excellency's proclamation convening the legislature and his message were read, after which both houses were organized. The governor's message asked the legislature to consider some important questions upon which legislation is needed, but whether heed will be given to his suggestions remains to be seen.

A good election law, applicable to St. Louis and Kansas City, is absolutely essential to the preservation of the elective franchise in its purity in those cities, so thinks the governor.

In this state a law is needed for the protection of employees against accidents caused by the negligence of their employers or other employees. This is what is known as the "fellow-servant law." We cannot see why such a law should apply only to railroads and their employees, as there are other corporations the conduct of whose business is attended with about as much danger to life as the business of railroads.

The governor stresses the fact that for years past the legislature has been throttled and hindered in its attempts at needed legislation by an unprincipled and corrupting lobby, and suggests the enactment of a law that will quell or operate against the debasing influence of the professional lobbyist.

At the early opening of the session the prospect for harmony between the members, or between the two branches and the governor, was not good. Doubtless some of those gentlemen who have not heretofore enjoyed a per diem equal to that paid the legislature are glad of the extra session, but they will be none the less abusive of the governor for calling it. We do not expect much good to the state through this extra session of our lawmakers, but we will bide our time, wait and see.

In a letter to the *New York World* Senator Vest voices the sentiments of the free coinage element in the declaration that there shall be no evasion of the issue, no further temporizing, and that the silver Democrats are determined to control the national convention and nominate a man for the presidency who can plant both feet on a free coinage platform.

EVERY time Mr. Cleveland gives an expression, written or oral, on the subject of finance he widens the breach in the Democratic party.

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I have in my charge for sale a large number of farms located in Chariton county and elsewhere. Also lots and residence property in Keytesville and other towns in the county. Most all of which I can sell astonishingly cheap and on almost any terms. All who want to buy or sell should call and see me. You will make or save money by doing so. Building & Loan MONEY in any amount.

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CIRCUIT COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Regular April Term, 1895.

In addition to the proceedings already published the following proceedings have been had at the April term of circuit court:

CRIMINAL CASES.

State of Missouri vs P W Ellis, obtaining goods under false pretenses; mistrial, jury discharged and cause continued. This is the case in which P W Ellis of Marcelline is charged with obtaining three buggies from H C Atterbury of Mendon by misrepresentation.

Same vs James Winkler, selling liquor illegally; *nolle prosequi*.

Same vs Geo Powell, carrying concealed weapons; tried by jury and verdict for defendant.

Same vs Robt Cresson, felonious assault; tried by jury before Hon W S Stockwell, special judge, and verdict of not guilty.

This is the case growing out of reason's stabbing "Jim Bob" Bowling with a knife at a dance in Missouri township in August, 1894. Cresson entered into a recognizance in the sum of \$150 for his appearance at the following October term of circuit court, but "jumped" his bond and was not captured until a few weeks ago when Sheriff Dempsey located him in Clinton county, Mo., and brought him back to stand trial. The jury took the view that Bowling brought on the difficulty, got the worst of it, therefore refused to convict Cresson.

CIVIL CASES.

A M Simpson vs R B Kilpatrick, ejectment; continued under advisement with Judge O F Smith as special judge.

Smith-Frazier Boot & Shoe Co vs J M Cash and Fred Hainds, R J Wheeler interpleader, change of venue from Linn county; continued by agreement.

C C Rainwater & Co vs J M Cash and Fred Hainds, same; same.

Henry Keshoph & Co vs same, same; same.

A L Baer vs John P Johnson et al; motion to relax costs; continued to pass from docket.

John P Johnson et al A L Baer, same; same.

A L Baer vs John P Johnson et al, same; same.

Polly S Williams vs Ed M Gilliam, suit for

dower; report of commissioners confirmed; judgment for possession of property set apart by commissioners, and \$50 damages allowed plaintiff.

In the matter of the assignment of James C Dixie, O F Wayland, assignee, assignment; A W Johnson appointed commissioner to examine assignee's report. Assignee's final report approved. Assignee allowed \$74.25 for his services, and A W Johnson \$15 at attorney's fee, and assignee discharge.

Geo N Elliott vs Benjamin Buffington, ejectment; by agreement Hon W H Brownlee elected special judge to try cause.

Lucy B Zimmerman vs J B Zimmerman; divorce; plaintiff takes non suit. This was one of the rather sensational divorce suits docketed for the April term of circuit court.

Mr Zimmerman being a well-to-do farmer and stockman of Triplett township. Mrs Zimmerman was formerly Miss Lucy B Young of Monroe county, but had been making her home at Brunswick for some time. The evidence in the divorce proceedings was all offered on both sides and the case was submitted to Judge Rucker, who took the matter under advisement, but before his decision was made public the fair plaintiff took a non suit on last Saturday.

It is said she will go back to Monroe county and after residing there for one year will institute proceedings for divorce in that county.

Louis Meyer et al ex parte, partition; continued to await final report.

Julia Rock vs Bettie Hyatt, partition; compromised and dismissed.

In the matter of the assignment of C F Brashear, P S Radef, assignee, allowed \$40 for his services. First report approved and cause continued.

Johanna Schmitt vs Mary Alter et al, partition; report of commissioners approved and confirmed. Land ordered sold as recommended by commissioners, and cause continued.

H C Atterbury vs J D Stanley, ejectment; jury waived; trial by court, and judgment for plaintiff for possession of land sued for, damages assessed at \$1 and value of monthly rents and profits fixed at \$3.

John Grove vs Horace W Colson, debt; death of plaintiff suggested, and cause dismissed.

Mary D Thomas vs Edwin C Thomas, divorce; plaintiff divorced upon payment of costs, and restored to her maiden name, Mary D Moore.

W O McLeod vs J A Snyder, reversal; dismissed for want of prosecution.

J P Richards vs D D Knight, replevin; continued.

Santa Fe Exchange bank vs Nathan Laird, debt; continued by agreement.

Lucretia M Wilding vs L D Hyde, suit on note; change of venue granted on application of defendant to the circuit court of Linn county, held at Linneus.

St. Louis Type Foundry vs C P Vandiver and J M Collins, suit on notes; judgment by default for \$204 on first count; for \$128.61 on second count, both with interest at 8 per cent.; on third count for \$61.99, on fourth count for \$52.56 and on fifth count for \$52.50, all with 10 per cent. interest.

Same vs P W Hartman, selling goods without license; dismissed at defendant's cost.

Same vs Lee Banks, robbery; tried by jury and verdict of not guilty. Banks is the negro who was charged with stealing \$145 from Isaac Hall, col., of Missouri township, at Fulton, two weeks ago.

Same vs Cecil Wayland, selling whiskey as druggist, etc., without legal authority; defendant pleads guilty to first count on indictment, and is fined \$100; dismissed as to second count.

Same vs James Moore, grand larceny; defendant pleads guilty, and his punishment is fixed by the court at imprisonment in the penitentiary for a term of two years. Moore is the young man who stole a mule from J N Gibson of near Logansport last Thursday night.